

Are You Guilty?

HOLY
BIBLE



If You Were Accused of Being a
Christian, Would There Be
Enough Evidence to Convict You?

Brought Before the Courts

- ◆ Jesus warned the Apostles they would be brought before the synagogues and courts.
- ◆ **Matthew 10:17-18** - 17 Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, 18 and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles.

Brought Before the Courts

- ◆ The Apostles would themselves be brought before the Sanhedrin in Acts.
- ◆ **Acts 5:27-28** - 27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, 28 saying, “We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us.”

Brought Before the Courts

- ◆ The Apostles were then beaten for the name of Jesus.
- ◆ **Acts 5:40-41** - 40 and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. 41 Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.

A Light to the World

◆ **Matthew 5:14-16** - 14 “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Four Elements/Components of a Crime

1. Mental State (Mens rae)
2. Conduct (Actus reus)
3. Concurrence
4. Causation

Mental State

- ◆ **Romans 12:2** - 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.
- ◆ **Colossians 3:2** - 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.
- ◆ **Philippians 4:8** - 8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Prejudice vs Godliness

- ◆ **1 John 2:9-11** - 9 Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. 10 Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. 11 But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.
- ◆ **1 John 3:14-15** - 14 We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. 15 Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

Our Minds Devoted to God

- ◆ **Matthew 22:37** - 37 And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

Conduct (Actus reus)

- ◆ **Galatians 6:9-10** - 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Works of the Flesh vs Fruits of the Spirit

- ◆ **Galatians 5:17** - 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

Works of the Flesh

◆ **Galatians 5:19-21** - 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do[e] such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Fruits of the Spirit

◆ **Galatians 5:22-24** - 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Looking After Others

- ◆ **Galatians 6:2** - 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.
- ◆ **Philippians 2:4** - 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.
- ◆ **Ephesians 4:28** - 28 Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

Concurrence

- ◆ **James 2:14-17** - 14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? 17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.
- ◆ **James 3:13** - 13 Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.

The Greatest Commandment – Concurrence

- ◆ **Matthew 22:37-40** - 37 And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

Causation

◆ **Matthew 25:34-36** - 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'

Going Beyond Your Comfort Zone

◆ **Acts 8:26-29** - 26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. 27 And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.”

Peter and the Centurion Cornelius

- ◆ **Acts 10:28-29** - 28 And he said to them, “You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean. 29 So when I was sent for, I came without objection. I ask then why you sent for me.”

The Great Commission

◆ **Matthew 28:18-20** - 18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

"Guilty"

When did it become breaking a rule
To say your name out loud in school
When your name's the only one that sets us free?
When did it become incorrect
To speak the truth about life and death
When your life gave us all eternity?

Even if it gets me convicted
I'll be on my knees with my hands lifted

If serving you's against the law of man
If living out my faith in you is banned
Then I'll stand right before the jury

If saying "I believe" is out of line
If I'm judged 'cause I'm gonna give my life
To show the world the love that fills me
Then I wanna be guilty